

## Career Research Paper Project Description

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts

You will be researching and writing a paper on a career that you feel you would like to pursue as an adult. We will spend many weeks researching your topic, so take time to pick a career that you are generally interested in and care about!

**Your paper should include (a/an)...**

**Introduction:** Introduction paragraph should include the following in order: (5-7 sentences)

- Lead/Hook - analogy, anecdote, quote, statistic, fact, one word/phrase, controversial statement (sentence 1).
- Basic definition of the career chosen (1-2 sentences)
- Why the career interests you (1-2 sentences). **THE INTRO & CONCLUSION ARE THE ONLY PARAGRAPHS WHERE YOU MAY USE PERSONAL PRONOUNS** (I, you, me, my, our, us).
- A thesis statement (last sentence in the paragraph) that states what the paper will discuss.

### 3 Body Paragraphs:

1<sup>st</sup>-A Career Overview: (Choose at least 4 bullets to answer)

- ☐ What does someone in this career do (basic definition)?
- ☐ What does a person do in a typical day (usual hours, tasks, working conditions)?
- ☐ What skills are required to complete this job? (Good in math, public speaking, etc.)
- ☐ How will this job grow or change in the future?
- ☐ What are some challenges or setbacks associated with this job?

2<sup>nd</sup>-About Salary: (Answer each bullet point)

- ☐ What is the standard beginning wage for this job (either hourly or yearly)?
- ☐ What is the median or average salary (either hourly or yearly)?
- ☐ What is the wage for an experienced employee in this career?
- ☐ Besides salary, what are a few other “perks” that employees receive in this job (benefits, vacation, sick leave, etc.)?

3<sup>rd</sup>-About Education and Training: (Answer each bullet point)

- ☐ What is the minimum level of education required for this job (diploma, degree, etc.)?
- ☐ What sort of licensing or testing is required to gain entry into the career?
- ☐ How much does this training/education cost? (research potential universities)
- ☐ What classes could one take in high school to prepare? Participation in activities?

**Conclusion:** Follow the format below: (5-7 sentences)

- Restate your original thesis statement (Change the wording slightly)
- Provide a summary of the main points covered (one summary sentence for each paragraph).
- Reflect on the overall career and discuss whether you’re really interested in it, or not.  
Remember, **THE INTRO & CONCLUSION ARE THE ONLY PARAGRAPHS WHERE YOU MAY USE PERSONAL PRONOUNS** (I, you, me, my, our, us).
- End with a concluding statement (something to leave your audience thinking about)

**As part of the research process, you are required to complete the following:**

- ✦ Locate and research at least 3 sources about your topic (use list of “Helpful links”)
- ✦ Compile sources into a Works Cited Page
- ✦ Complete a research organizer with facts about your topic
- ✦ Write a thesis statement that helps organize your paper
- ✦ Compose a formatted outline for your paper
- ✦ Write at least one complete rough draft of all 5 paragraphs
- ✦ Revise and turn in a final draft by the established deadline

<b>Assignment:</b>	<b>Pts. Possible</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
Finalize your topic & 3 sources about your topic	5- HW	Wed. 3/5/14
Parent Signature Due	5-HW	Wed. 3/5/14
Preliminary Works Cited Page	<b>10*</b>	Thurs. 3/6/14
Research Organizer	15-HW	Tues. 3/11/14
Thesis Statement	5- HW	Thurs. 3/13/14
Typed outline	<b>10*</b>	Fri. 3/14/14
Edited Rough Drafts: <i>(see below)</i>	25-HW total	
Intro paragraph RD w/ editing	5	Tues. 3/18/14
body paragraph 1 RD w/ editing	5	Wed. 3/19/14
body paragraph 2 RD w/ editing	5	Thurs, 3/20/14
body paragraph 3 RD w/ editing	5	Fri., 3/21/14
Conclusion paragraph RD w/ editing	5	Mon, 3/24/14
Final Draft & Finalized Works Cited Page	<b>42*</b>	<b>Fri. 3/28/14</b>
<b>TOTALS:</b> 62* Assessment pts + 55 Homework Points		

\*Denotes Assessment points (90% of overall average)

HW- denotes homework grade (10% of overall average)

**IMPORTANT NOTE: All deadlines are subject to change as we go.** Falling behind on one deadline will put you behind in the entire process! If you're absent, you'll need to work double-hard! You can keep-up with any changing deadlines by referring to the Homework board in our classroom and checking Progress Book often.